IAP20 RGG'G FCT/FTO 03 JAN 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Youji NOTOYA et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2005 2041A

Filed January 3, 2006

ENCODING MODE DECIDING APPARATUS, IMAGE ENCODING APPARATUS, ENCODING MODE DECIDING METHOD, AND ENCODING MODE DECIDING PROGRAM [Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/010903 Filed July 23, 2004]

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

	[X]	each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;					
	0	each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/; and/or					
	0	each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.					
1a.	[X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:						
	within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or						

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
 - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

 Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

 counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of
 the Statement, or
 - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. [X] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

"JPH11-243551 corresponds to US2004/0202245; JPH7-203452 corresponds to US 5,719,630; JP2001-61149 corresponds to US2002/0136301; and JPJ11-239352 corresponds to US 6,353,683."

5. [X] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Youji NOTOYA et al.

Weffley R. Filipek

Registration No. 41,471 Attorney for Applicants

JRF/ck Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 January 3, 2006

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) 2 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE				2005_2041A	NEW ,		10/56	53357) 	
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)				APPLICANT Youji NOTOYA et al.						
- (Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: January 3, 2006				FILING DATE GROUP January 3, 2006						
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS		SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
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OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)										
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